

A General Review of Sports of All Kinds From Everywhere

NORFOLK MUST SEE THE LIGHT OVER HEAVY SEAS

Beer Purse and Wine Appetite Responsible for Trouble in Tarville

CLARKE SPENT MONEY LIKESAILOR

Players Received Big Salaries With Liberal Contracts, Which Proved Financial Undoing of Crew of Mary Jane—Other Managers Wondered How It Was Done.

BY GUS MALBERT.

So much has been written and so much has been said relative to the conduct of the Virginia League last season that the poor, burden-laden fan must feel that he is receiving a load which, under the ordinary run of affairs, would not only prove entirely too exacting, but a gratuitous offering, which carries with it a demonstration of interest wholly out of proportion to the needs or the demands of the situation.

In large measure the fan is absolutely correct. Publicity is a great thing. It stimulates interest, and keeps alive, even in the winter, a regard for the national pastime, which, under less favored conditions, would languish and, mayhap, die. But along with these meritorious accomplishments of publicity, there is a secondary effect. The fan gets to know things which might as well be left unsaid. How the league is run is of little interest to the fan. What he wants is a good baseball club, a winning team, or, at least, a team which can hold its own with the other teams in the league.

Some Justification for Talk. As justification for the recent publicity one has but to point to the action of the owners of the Norfolk franchise. Not since the league began has anything arisen which can be compared with the situation now existing in the Virginia League. All of the owners are perfectly satisfied with existing conditions except the Norfolk people. They have come forth with a series of complaints because the league is not properly constructed from a geographical standpoint, and that the vast distances between the several cities composing the league is responsible for the losses of the seaside town.

Not a single line which will appear in this story is claimed to be new. On many occasions I have written the same thing. But what I am now attempting to do is to place before you some real facts concerning the conduct of the Norfolk team last year, which you might not know, and which will straighten out what may appear as a tangled skein. Norfolk is entitled to no consideration from the league managers, or, rather, the present owners of the franchise are entitled to no consideration. That's the fair way to put it.

Where the Leak Really Is. If Mr. Consolvo and Mr. Omoheundo and Mr. Hecht and the several other men who have interest in the Norfolk team will be perfectly fair with the people of the State of Virginia they will tell why the Norfolk team did not make money. The cry of poverty is absolutely absurd. It is a question whether any city in the United States could have made more money under conditions which prevailed in Norfolk last year. When it comes to offering sympathy I am the most lavish fellow in the world, so long as I am convinced that my sympathy is not misplaced. But when it comes to Norfolk I have nothing but hard words.

In the first place, Winn Clarke, who managed Norfolk last year, wanted to win a pennant. That in itself is all right. But he doesn't care how he won the pennant. In some ways he convinced the owners that it was necessary to get ball players costing more money than any city in the league could afford. Then he set about getting his men. Contracts were offered with a non-reserve clause and, in at least three instances, the men were guaranteed their pay until January, 1911.

Spent Money Like Sailors. When it became known in certain quarters just what the members of the Norfolk team received in the way of compensation last year hands went.

(Continued on Second Page.)

Six-Day Battle Ends in Victory for Staunch Craft Nicely Handled.

The motorboat Bernevo, owned by S. W. Granberry, of Newark, N. J., left Norfolk, Va., on Thursday, December 8, bound for Bermuda. The weather was fair, and continued so on Friday, when Cape Henry was passed in a moderate sea and northeast wind, and there was no indication of the terrific gale to be encountered. On Saturday, December 10, the wind had shifted to the southwest and heavy seas were beating upon the little ship with increasing fury. Towards noon a tremendous sea boarded her, and for fifteen seconds the Bernevo was completely buried, until it seemed to those on board that she could not possibly recover. The ship's boat was torn from its lashings and the man at the wheel was picked up bodily and hurled across the deck and against the lifeboat, which had lodged against the Bernevo's rail.

The crew labored heroically to heave the boat to, and were finally successful. With broken cabin windows and havoc from stem to stern, the little ship lay to the storm for six hours, facing what seemed must be destruction. Captain Granberry finally decided to run before the gale, and the engine was started. The engineers were under battered down hatches, their faith pinned to the little piece of machinery that was to either pull them through or fail. Some idea of the awful ordeal is gained from the fact that not a soul on board had a mouthful of food or drink from Saturday until Tuesday.

More Peril Encountered. On Sunday, December 11, the boat was again hoisted to for nearly nine hours. Late in the day the engine was started and kept running until the seas compelled Captain Granberry to again heave to on Monday afternoon, December 12. On Tuesday the Bernevo ran four hours all told. Captain Granberry, who had made an estimate of the amount of fuel remaining in the tanks, found that it would only allow for about thirty hours steady running. It was decided to drop the sea anchor until more favorable weather would allow observations to be taken, as the boat's exact position was not known.

Early Monday morning the sextant had been smashed and huge seas had washed Quartermaster McDonald overboard, at the same time throwing Captain Welton and Mr. Campbell overboard, where they saved themselves by clutching the rigging. McDonald was given up for lost, when he was seen him back toward the boat and he was able to grasp the rigging and cling there until hauled aboard. On Wednesday night a steamer's light was picked up, and signals were made to attract her attention. A torch of waste, soaked in kerosene, was fastened to the mast of a broomstick, but although the steamer hoisted it, she apparently could not understand the nautical light dancing on the breast of the sea. She made off with speed, but the Bernevo, the winner of the Philadelphia-Bermuda race, was not to be so easily overtaken. Captain Granberry got his bearings from the frightened crew, who thought the little boat with the waving torch of light was some new evil after them. The Bernevo was hoisted to the masthead of Bermuda, and a course was at once laid for St. George's, which was made at 6:30 Thursday morning. December 15, the staunchness of the boat and the reliability of the machinery again carried the boat and crew through the five-day ordeal. Captain John Welton, Mate George Campbell, Engineer William Soden and Quartermaster John R. McDonald and H. Ralva returned to New York on the Bermudian, arriving Monday, December 19.

NEW HAVEN IN LEAD.

First Week's Contest for Indoor Rifle Shooting League Championship.

Washington, December 24.—New York and Portland, Me., in the order named, were the leaders in the first week's contest between fourteen Eastern cities for the Eastern Indoor Rifle Shooting League championship. The contest will extend over thirteen weeks, each team in the league competing with each other team, one match being held. In this week's contest, New Haven made 976 out of a possible 1,000; Warren, 970; New York, 953; and Portland, 910. The other cities which finished in the following order: Birmingham, Ala.; Pittsburgh; Bangor, Me.; Bridgeport, Conn.; Butler, Pa.; Washington, D. C.; Erie, Pa.; Providence, R. I.; Atlantic City, and Savannah, Ga.

Each team is composed of five men. Twenty shots are fired by each man every match.

JAMES W. SULLIVAN



Richmond's new manager makes his bow and promises to do his best to land a pennant next season.

LOOK AT THIS REAL ANALYSIS OF BIG LEAGUE HAPPENINGS

HOW THE CLUBS SCORED THEIR RUNS

	Detroit	Philadelphia	Boston	New York	Cleveland	Washington	Chicago	St. Louis	Totals
Runs batted in	537	541	538	501	455	399	359	346	3,676
Scored on errors	104	100	72	88	59	58	63	63	607
Scored on wild pitches	11	9	10	14	10	12	10	15	91
Scored by steals	7	8	18	10	13	9	11	10	90
Bases on balls (forced in)	6	8	9	5	8	18	10	12	78
Scored on passed balls	2	6	2	0	5	1	2	3	21
Hit batsmen (forced in)	3	3	1	0	1	0	1	1	12
Scored on balks	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Totals	679	674	640	626	548	501	457	451	4,576

Sam Crawford, of Tigers, Takes Honors Away From Georgia Peach for Batting in Runs After Holding Championship for Three Years—Some Interesting Sidelights on What the Big Fellows Really Did Do With the Willow Last Season and How They Helped to Win Games.

BY EARNEST J. LANGAN.

After having led the American League for three seasons in the important matter of driving in runs, Ty Cobb, of the Detroit Tigers, this year had to surrender the batting crown to his teammate, Sam Crawford, who, while hitting only a 289 clip to the former champion's 335, nevertheless drove across the plate twenty-seven more tallies than did the fast and fiery youth from the Southland.

"Vahoo Sam" put the finishing touches to 115 of the 679 runs harvested by the former champions in 1910. Ty Cobb, the champion of 1908, 1909 and 1910, the champion timely hitter of the campaigns of 1907, 1908 and 1909 can look back on his runs-batted-in record with great pride, for in the last four seasons he drove home 429 runs for the Detroit club. No other major leaguer has batted in more than 400 tallies in the same time. Hans Wagner, of the Pirates, having sent 353 men galloping over the plate by his timely wallows and Sam Crawford for 1910, Ty Cobb, the champion of 1908, 1909 and 1910, the champion timely hitter of the campaigns of 1907, 1908 and 1909 can look back on his runs-batted-in record with great pride, for in the last four seasons he drove home 429 runs for the Detroit club. No other major leaguer has batted in more than 400 tallies in the same time. 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